

PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR BOILER TUBE PANEL WELDING AND STRAIGHT- ENING

Abstract

An apparatus and process for depositing an overlay weld on a boiler tube panel comprising a plurality of tubes with adjacent tubes joined together with membranes therebetween, and then straightening the panel in response to bowing that occurs as a result of depositing the overlay weld. The apparatus generally comprises an overlay welding apparatus that deposits an overlay weld on a surface of a boiler tube panel, and a straightening apparatus for straightening the panel following deposition of the overlay weld. The straightening process entails placing the boiler tube panel between two members, and the pressing a portion of the panel therebetween.